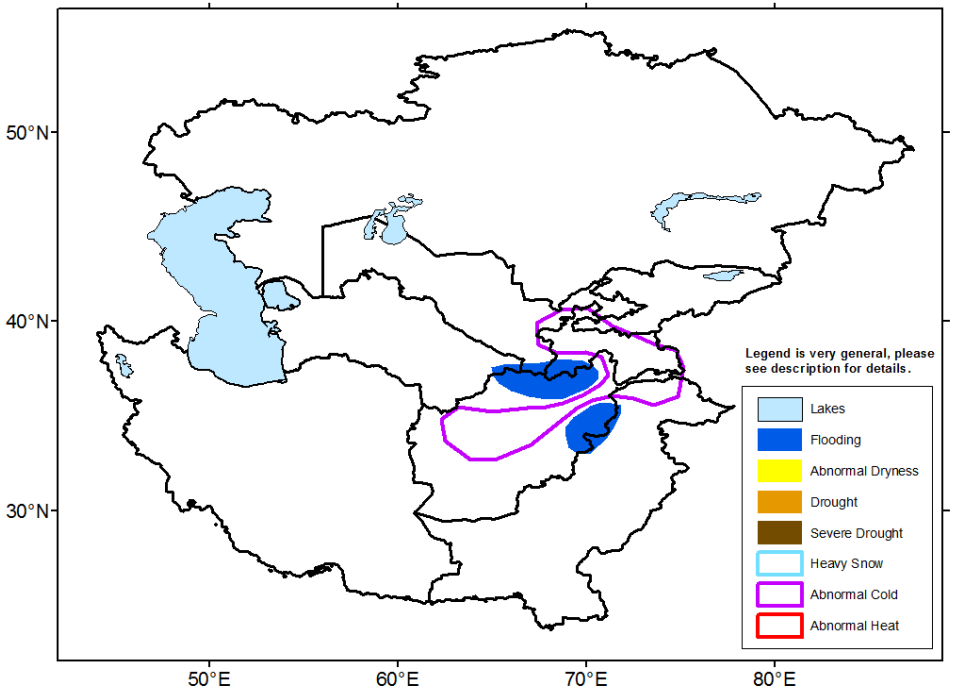
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
February 23 – March 1, 2017

Temperatures:

From February 12-18, temperatures averaged 3-9 degrees Celsius below normal over Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. In contrast, temperatures averaged above normal in eastern Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan, with warm anomalies ranging between 3-7 degrees Celsius. Farther south, temperatures were near normal over Afghanistan. During the next week, warmer than normal weather is expected to return over Kazakhstan, while below normal temperatures, with anomalies exceeding 8 degrees Celsius is forecast over central and northeastern Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Maximum temperature is forecast to range between 10-20 degrees Celsius and rise 4-8 degrees Celsius above normal, which could accelerate snowmelt and result in flooding over portions of northern and southeastern Afghanistan.



Precipitation

During mid-February, heavy (> 50 mm, liquid equivalent) precipitation fell over the southern portions of Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, and northern Afghanistan. In Afghanistan, reports indicated more than 25 fatalities in the Faryab province in the north. Over the past thirty days, accumulated precipitation was above normal over the central portions of Central Asia. Consistent heavy snowfall over the past few weeks has increased snow water equivalent to average above normal over most basins of Afghanistan. During the next outlook period, a return to a drier weather is expected over Central Asia, with little to light (< 25 mm, liquid equivalent) precipitation only in northern Kazakhstan, northern Afghanistan, and Tajikistan.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.